

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to water resources; providing
 3 legislative intent; creating s. 403.9339, F.S.;
 4 requiring the Department of Environmental Protection
 5 to conduct a comprehensive and quantitative needs-
 6 based overview of this state's water resources;
 7 specifying requirements for the overview; requiring
 8 the department to submit a report every 5 years to the
 9 Governor and the Legislature by a specified date;
 10 providing an effective date.

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 12 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that water constitutes a
 13 public resource benefitting the entire state, and

14 WHEREAS, water is an essential element to this state's
 15 current and future growth, sustainability, and environmental
 16 health, and

17 WHEREAS, a needs-based water assessment is vital to
 18 successfully plan for this state's current and future population
 19 growth, and infrastructural and environmental needs, NOW,
 20 THEREFORE,

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 22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 24 Section 1. It is the intent of the Legislature that the
 25 Department of Environmental Protection interpret this act, to

26 | the maximum extent practicable, in a manner that provides the
 27 | Legislature with a comprehensive overview of this state's water
 28 | infrastructure funding needs, including, but not limited to, its
 29 | residential, commercial, environmental, agricultural, and
 30 | industrial needs. The department shall coordinate, to the
 31 | maximum extent practicable, with private and public sector
 32 | entities to produce the report required under s. 403.9339,
 33 | Florida Statutes. The department may use any source of
 34 | information it deems reasonably reliable as long as the source
 35 | is identified in the report.

36 | Section 2. Section 403.9339, Florida Statutes, is created
 37 | to read:

38 | 403.9339 Comprehensive overview of statewide water
 39 | resources report.-

40 | (1) The department shall conduct a comprehensive and
 41 | quantitative needs-based overview of this state's water
 42 | resources.

43 | (2) To determine the level of need, the overview must
 44 | include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

45 | (a) The funds necessary for the infrastructure's capacity
 46 | to meet current and future demands.

47 | (b) The funds necessary to provide for the
 48 | infrastructure's existing and near-future physical condition and
 49 | to provide expected levels of service and protection to the
 50 | public safety.

51 (c) The funds necessary for the infrastructure to be
52 operated and maintained in compliance with federal, state, and
53 local government regulations.

54 (d) The funds necessary for the infrastructure to be able
55 to prevent or protect against significant multi-hazard threats
56 and incidents, and its ability to quickly return to a pre-hazard
57 or pre-threat level of service.

58 (e) The replacement costs for infrastructure that is
59 nearing, at, or exceeding its estimated service life.

60 (f) The costs of compliance with legislative intent that
61 sufficient water be available for all existing and future
62 reasonable-beneficial uses and for natural systems, and that
63 adverse effects of competition for water supplies be avoided.

64 (g) The infrastructure needs and funds necessary to
65 protect, restore, and enhance this state's water.

66 (h) The infrastructure, including stormwater systems,
67 needs and funds necessary to provide for adequate flood
68 protection.

69 (3) The overview must be based on a short-term, 5-year
70 planning period and a long-term, 20-year planning period and
71 must include, but need not be limited to, all of the following:

72 (a) Water supply infrastructure, including, at a minimum,
73 water supply development projects, water resource development
74 projects, and water conservation.

75 (b) Water quality protection and restoration, including,

76 at a minimum, septic system conversion, basin management action
77 plans under s. 403.067(7)(a), and surface water improvement and
78 management plans under s. 373.453.

79 (c) Wastewater infrastructure.

80 (d) Stormwater infrastructure.

81 (e) Flood control infrastructure.

82 (f) Environmental restoration.

83 (4) The overview must also identify potential funding
84 options to meet the anticipated demand on water resources in
85 this state which are necessary to comply with laws and
86 regulations governing subsection (1), to comply with the
87 Legislature's intent that sufficient water be available for all
88 existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses and the natural
89 systems, and to avoid adverse effects of competition for water
90 supplies. The overview of funding options may include a review
91 of public and private funding options used in this state, other
92 states, or other countries.

93 (5) Beginning January 1, 2022, and every 5 years
94 thereafter, the department shall submit a report of the findings
95 of the overview to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
96 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

97 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.